

ON BUTTERFLIES FROM MADEIRA,
WITH A CHECK LIST

By OLE KARSHOLT*

A recent paper by Owen, Shreeve and Smith (1987) states that only 14 species of butterflies are found in the Island of Madeira (even though they list 15 species in their paper!). In another recent paper, Jones *et. al.*, (1987) list 16 species of butterflies from Madeira, basing their list on Higgins & Riley (1983). The discrepancy between these publications relate to species which will be discussed below.

The rich collection of Lepidoptera from Madeira kept in the Zoological Museum of the University of Copenhagen (ZMUC) contains a single specimen of *Hipparchia statilinus* (Hufnagel). The specimen is labelled: Madeira, Nogueira, Camara de Cargo, 1000m, 23.viii. 1974, E. Traugott-Olsen leg. This specimen has been examined by L. G. Higgins, who stated it to be of the form *allionia* (Fabricius), and *statilinus* was consequently recorded from Madeira by Higgins & Riley (1983). In spite of much collecting of butterflies in Madeira, this species has apparently only been collected on this single occasion, and should thus be considered a vagrant, possibly from the Iberian Peninsula, where the form *allionia* occurs (Higgins & Riley, 1983).

Among the 15 butterfly species of Madeira dealt with in the paper of Owen *et al.* (1987), the record of *Colias hyale* (Linnaeus) seems doubtful. The species was mentioned from Madeira by Cockerell (1923), who writes: "Burr mentions that he saw in the collection of the Seminario at Funchal, presumably collected in Madeira, *Colias hyale* L., . . .". I have not been able to trace whether Burr published on this matter himself. The words "presumably collected in Madeira" suggest that the specimen(s) in question was not labelled. If it actually was collected in Madeira it may well have been a specimen of *C. croceus* (Fourcroy) f. *helice* (Hübner). It is strange that *hyale* is not mentioned at all in the detailed card index of Lepidoptera of Madeira compiled by the late N. L. Wolff and now in ZMUC. Wolff knew of Cockerell's paper, but apparently he considered the record too doubtful to be included in the list of Lepidoptera of Madeira.

Wolff's card index includes another butterfly species not listed by Owen *et al.* (1987), viz. *Cynthia virginiensis* (Drury). Its occurrence in Madeira has been recorded by e.g., Rebel (1917), Higgins & Riley (1973), and Oehmig (1977), but these records apparently are based on that of Godman (1870). Godman briefly mentions *virginiensis* (under the name of *Vanessa hunteri*) from Madeira, but

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Fig. 1. *Hipparchia statilinus* (Hfn.) Madeira, Nogueira, Camara de Cargo, 1000m, 23.viii.1974, E. Traugott-Olsen leg., coll. ZMUC. (x1).

Fig. 2. Underside.

not from the Canary Islands where it occurs regularly, and apparently he mixed up the islands from where this species is recorded. No further records of *virginiensis* are known to me, and in a new edition of their book Higgins & Riley (1983) have omitted the record from Madeira. The butterfly fauna of Madeira thus includes the following 16 species (including 4 endemic subspecies):

Pieris brassicae (Linnaeus, 1758) ssp. *wollastoni* Butler, 1886; *Pieris rapae* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Colias croceus* (Fourcroy, 1785); *Gonepteryx cleopatra* (Linnaeus, 1767) ssp. *maderensis* Felder, 1862; *Danaus plexippus* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Vanessa atalanta* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Vanessa indica* (Herbst, 1794); *Cynthia cardui* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Issoria lathonia* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Hypolimnys misippus* (Linnaeus, 1764); *Hipparchia aristaeus* (Bonelli, 1826) ssp. *maderensis* (Baker, 1891); *Hipparchia statilinus* (Hufnagel, 1766); *Pararge aegeria* (Linnaeus, 1758); *Pararge xiphia* (Fabricius, 1775); *Lycaena phlaeas* (Linnaeus, 1761) ssp. *phlaeoides* (Staudinger, 1901); *Lampides boeticus* (Linnaeus, 1767).

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OMALIUM ALLARDI FAIRM. & BRIS. (COL.: STAPHYLINIDAE) IN SPEYSIDE. — Lately when examining my few exponents of *Omalium septentrionis* Thoms. (ex P. Harwood) it became evident that one of them was quite different from the rest, and was in fact *O. allardi*; it bears the data 'Kincaig 5.v.52'. The only Scottish records I have for this rare and little-recorded species are 'Solway, Tweed and Clyde districts' (Fowler, 1888, *Col. Brit. Isl.* **2**: 414) and 'N. Uist, Outer Hebrides, in rock-dove's nest (Joy)' (Fowler & Donisthorpe, 1913, *ibid.* **6**: 243). The sculpture of the head and elytra and form of the temples are quite characteristic in *allardi*, whilst the pale humeral region is usually a reliable pointer to it. The beetle is clearly associated with bird dung, and also with old bones; the former habit recalls that of *Phyllodrepa puberula* Bernh. and *Aleochara villosa* Mann. The record of *O. allardi* from Cheshunt, Herts. (1979, *Ent.mon.Mag.* **115**: 154), where the date of capture was wrongly given by me as 1st June — it should have been 1st April —, remains my sole find of the species. — A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, London SE7.

ZYRAS HAWORTHII STEPH. (COL.: STAPHYLINIDAE), A CORRECTION — In my note on this species (*Ent. Rec.* **100**:47), the locality of the capture was incorrectly given as Brackett's Copse, Harwood. The locality should read Brackett's Coppice, Halstock, Dorset. P. D. ORTON.